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Our rejoicings over the aggregate of dismissals within the past month at the Treasury Department are tempered by the fear that good many have only been made to get place for somebody else. If the three hundred and seventy-four who have been turned out can only be kept out, and nobody else let into their vacancies, the result would undoubtedly be a substantial reform. In so far as it is a mere rotation to find food wherewith to stop the hungry mouths of clamorous office-seekers, it is of less evident value. We believe there are far too many clerks employed in most of the Departments and that the public service would be largely benefited by reducing their numbers and raising the grade of their qualifications. But we doubt whether the wholesale dismissals of workmen are always wise. Forty more are to go to-day. If there is no work for them, by all means let them go—the Departments are not infirmaries. If there is work, which they can do as well as

We have noticed, as a very curious coincidence, that whenever real estate is about to be offered for sale to the United States, there is a sudden finding of unexpected wealth and beauty in our last purchase; so that "discoveries in Alaska" may generally be regarded as preliminaries to some new treaty. Our readers must remember how rosy all the letters from Sitka became when St. Thomas and Saman were in the market. A few days ago we had accounts of wonderful gold-mines in our polar territory, and immediately afterward there comes a project to buy a few States in Mexico. All this looks queer, and we had better let the

bureau of the Capulets scrapes off the veneer  
ing from the bureau of the Montagues as the  
crowd each other on the stoop. Inimical chat  
break one another's legs in speechless disagree-  
ment. The incoming table viciously despoils  
the outgoing table of a castor. The servant  
of the two houses are ready to spill blood in  
the quarrel, while the small *gamins* of the  
street make off with such slight booty as door-  
knobs, carving-knives, boot-jacks, and ban-  
boxes. The sun goes down on the wra-  
th or the woe of twice ten thousand  
souls who, but that it was written that the  
First of May should be Moving Day, would  
have been profane, would not have ground  
the face of the poor helpers, would not have  
snubbed husband or wife, would not have made  
the lives of the dear little children a burden  
with unheard-of crossness; who, but that it  
was written that the First of May should be  
Moving Day, would not, from exposure, have  
contracted an inflammatory rheumatism, or  
been racked with a cough, or laid up with  
sprained hand, or forced to spend their sub-  
stance in pills and potions, and to stay at  
home all Summer to balance accounts. Only  
people indifferent as ourselves to the horrible  
people that reads with equanimity the  
news of a battle which snuffed out forty thou-  
sand lives, or dismisses with an ejaculation the  
tale of a railroad accident which kills and  
maims a hundred victims, or submits without  
a murmur to the presence of bone-boiling fab-  
rics, or the condition of the gutters of our  
streets, would tolerate this custom of un-

TRANSPORTATION OF GRAIN.

One-third of the price of a bushel of Western wheat which is sold in New-York for \$1.50, represents the cost of its transportation to market, or to speak more exactly, the freight, insurance, and elevator charges on a bushel of grain moved from a point 200 miles west of Chicago to this port amount to the exorbitant sum of 52¢ cents. This of course is not only a severe tax upon the domestic consumer, but places us at a serious disadvantage in foreign markets. The remedy is not obvious. It is by no means certain that tolls can be reduced on the Erie Canal without involving an annual loss, or that the railroads which are already competing with the canals and drawing off a large part of their tonnage, are making more than their legitimate profits. The project of diverting the grain trade to the Mississippi River and making St. Louis the successor of Chicago and New-Orleans the rival of New-York has been agitated this season with great vigor. Elevators are building at St. Louis, Cairo, and New-Orleans, and a "St. Louis Grain Association" has been formed for the purpose of drawing the attention of merchants and producers to this avenue of shipment, and aiding private enterprise by loans. It is asserted by the friends of this movement that grain can be sent to New-York for 10¢ less than a bushel less, and to Liverpool for 1¢ less a bushel less by this route than by any other; that freights last Winter were

In the *Editor of The Times*, the press of New-York has lost one of its most accomplished members. He was a critic of most sound judgment, excellent taste, and a wide range of information—a polished and fascinating writer; and at the same time an honest and genial gentleman. He had enjoyed a varied experience in journalism, and in all the departments in which he had employed his facile pen, he had reflected credit upon himself and his profession.

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*The World* says: "There are legitimate and 'proper,' and illegitimate and highly improper 'ways of advertising.' We believe *The World* considers it a perfectly 'legitimate and proper' 'way of advertising' to send its posters free through the mails as public documents under the frank of a Member of Congress.

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ARRIVED THIS MORNING.

The steamship *Cella* (Br.), Capt. Gleadell, London, April 10, and Havre, April 13, with merchandise and passengers.

M. Victorien Sardou has refused permission to the managers of country theaters in France, to play his new drama of "Patrie." He reserves for the company of the Porte St. Martin, which purposes taking a summer tour through Belgium and the provinces, the right of performance.

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